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October 22, 1953

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Robert M. Macy  
Chief, International Division  
Bureau of the Budget

From: Edward T. Wailes  
Assistant Secretary of State for Administration

This is in response to your oral request made in the course of Budget Bureau hearings on the Department of State's budget, in which you asked me to re-examine the problem of publications and map procurement officer positions in the Foreign Service and the ability of the Department to pay for them.

The Department, when it first examined this problem in connection with the budget for 1954-5, determined that it would be unable to maintain more than one publications procurement officer for each geographic area, but that it would maintain the publications procurement program to this extent. Further, the Department determined it would only be able to support three map procurement officers. Upon re-examination now of the Department's resources, I must reaffirm this position: In relation to its other responsibilities in the field, it is not possible for the Foreign Service to justify ;and support any more full-time positions for this activity. You are aware, of course, that all Foreign Service posts have standing instructions to collect such published materials as a part of their continuing and normal responsibilities.

The original determination on this matter was communicated to CIA at their request, since they had expressed a very strong interest in the maintenance of a publications procurement program at a level and with a specialization over and above that which the Department found itself able to maintain. It was;on the basis of this information, I understand, that Mr. Allen Dulles wrote to the Director of the Bureau of the Budget for approval of the support to this program by the CIA .

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In stating its original conclusions on this matter to the CIA, the Department was guided by its own view that its conclusions would not be construed as a violation of the intent of the Congress. Recognizing, as Mr. Dodge's response to Mr. Dulles pointed out, that the Department has primary responsibility for the overt collection of intelligence materials abroad, the Department interprets this responsibility to mean that it is obligated to finance a level of service consistent with its own resources and its over-all obligations and would be responsible for the coordination and administration of the overt collection program abroad. It must be recognized, however, that these activities are an important concern of the entire intelligence community. Mr. Dulles, having determined that for the purposes of the CIA it is necessary to maintain these activities at a level beyond the present financial resources of the Department to support, has proposed that CIA provide supplementing funds. The Department welcomes this support.

If there is further question upon this, I recommend that together we discuss it with representatives of the Central Intelligence Agency to whom I am sending a copy of this memorandum.

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